

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign Announces The Availability Of Funds And Solicits Proposals From Diesel Fleets In Cleveland To Reduce Emissions Of Diesel Exhaust

CLEVELAND, December 6, 2002 –The Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign (CCACC) is soliciting proposals for grant awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$90,000 to diesel fleets interested in undertaking emission reduction projects. The funds will support a recipient who owns and /or operates equipment (on-road or off-road) powered by diesel engines and who will cooperate with CCACC to reduce emissions of diesel exhaust by supporting fleet retrofit, replacement, and/or clean-fuels projects, and increase community knowledge about options for reducing emissions from diesel engines.

Applications will be accepted through February 7, 2003. Fleets interested in receiving an application package should request one from Linda D. Kimble whose contact information is provided above.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers diesel exhaust to be a significant health concern across the United States. Long-term exposure to diesel exhaust causes a variety of respiratory illnesses and is considered likely to increase risk of lung cancer. Short-term exposures can exacerbate asthma and existing allergy symptoms.

The “Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign” is a voluntary, community-based initiative to reduce toxic air pollution in Northeast Ohio. This new, community-based approach—which serves as a model for cities and regions nationwide—aims to reduce air toxics with a focus on transportation, schools, homes and businesses. EPA began the Cleveland Air Toxics Pilot Project in March 2001 and recently awarded a grant to the American Lung Association of Ohio to lead the project. The community Working Group decided to launch the Century Campaign to increase air quality improvement beyond pilot project levels. For more information on the pilot project, log on to <http://www.epa.gov/cleveland>.

The Campaign is guided by a 30-member volunteer Working Group including Alcoa, American Lung Association of Ohio, BP Products North America Inc., Cleveland Department of Public Health, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cleveland Municipal School District, Cuyahoga Community College, Earth Day Coalition, Environmental Health Watch, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Ohio Air Quality Development Authority, Ohio EPA, Ohio Public Interest Research Group, RPM/DayGlo, Sierra Club, and the neighborhoods of Slavic Village, St. Clair Superior, Tremont, and USEPA.

A stakeholder-led national pilot to initiate sustainable reductions in health and environmental risks from air toxics



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